



THE FAS LETTER

TO AGRICULTURAL ATTACHES AND OFFICERS

Number 153

January 1968



Paul Taggart, Area Officer for the Far East and South Asia, looks approvingly at a sample of Japanese strawberries grown for the winter market. In Japan, Paul noted, strawberries are harvested twice a year. The Christmas strawberries are raised by planting the berries under a semi-glass cover on a hill side so slanted as to give the berries maximum benefit from the low winter sun. The berries are planted early, allowed to bear fruit, taken from the hill ground up to Mt. Fuji for a dormancy period in a higher elevation, and are then at the proper time to produce the winter crop, replanted on the hill side. Paul said his visit to see the winter strawberry crop was one of the most interesting aspects of his recent 6-week post inspection tour to Tokyo, Hong Kong, Manila, Bangkok and Rawalpindi.

Visiting attache Paul Quintus, Paris, chats with T. O. Engebretson, European Area Officer, and Ed Gorman, Trade Fairs Division, at the FAS Christmas Party December 19. The annual party was held in the South Building.

Stugard Retires To Texas Ranch

Burl Stugard leaves the job of Deputy Assistant Administrator for Agricultural Attaches in January to retire to the "garden spot of Texas" and grow "ruby red grapefruit."

Burl, who leaves USDA after 36 years of service, said he plans to "relax in the sunshine...and manage his citrus farm in San Juan, Texas." He plans to keep busy with good hunting, fishing, and occasional visits across the Mexican Border which is only 7 miles from his ranch.

His career with FAS includes overseas service as attache to the Philippines, Mexico, and Spain. He served as Agricultural Attache Area Officer in 1957, and from 1955 to 1957 was Deputy Assistant Administrator in Agricultural Trade Policy and Analysis.

He was born and reared on a farm near Earlton in Southeast Kansas, and received the A.B. and M.A. degrees from the University of Kansas. Burl's agricultural career began in 1924 as a citrus farmer in the Rio Grande Valley to which he is retiring. His connection with USDA goes back to 1931 when he joined the old Bureau of Entomology and Plant Quarantine.



Portuguese Press Commends Attache

When Attache Larry Thomasson left his post in Portugal recently after four years, the leading newspaper in Portugal, "Diario De Noticias" carried a page two feature article describing a farewell dinner given Larry and his wife, Maxine, by Secretary of State for Agriculture Prof. Eng. Vitoria Pires and his wife.

The article described Larry as one who "has shown capacities of much merit, developing a valuable action during the four years he was in charge." The article complimented Larry particularly on his part in developing the livestock industry in Portugal and his work in representing the United States for the first time at Portugal's National Agricultural Fair.

"To all this meritorious action on the duties of his charge, Mr. L. F. Thomasson added great kindness on his contacts, sympathy and distinction, creating around himself an atmosphere of friendship and admiration which is confirmed by the numerous friends he leaves in Portugal," the Portuguese paper said.

A translation of this article was sent to FAS by Ford M. Milam, new Portuguese attache, who described the "esprit de corps" and the effectiveness of the Country Team at the Embassy as the finest he had seen.



Mike Bekhash, agricultural specialist in Beirut, proudly displays a certificate recently given him by Ambassador Dwight J. Porter in recognition of his 20 years of Federal Service employment. Standing beside Mike is Beirut attache Dan Sheppard. Mike, a British citizen, was born in New Zealand of Lebanese parents.



Attache Robert Adcock is introduced to Vice President Hubert Humphrey during the vice president's recent South Asia tour by Ambassador James D. Bell at the Student Hostel, Serdang College of Agriculture, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Hume Arrives At London Post



Dave Hume arrived in London January 8 as attache to fill the post vacated by retiring Bob Anderson. Bob sailed for the United States January 12. Dave, a USDA staff member since 1955, has spent the past five years as the assistant administrator for export programs.

Since 1962, Dave has had major responsibility for the direction of the FAS export development program. Not only have our dollar exports grown by nearly 50 percent during this period, but the program has also been greatly tightened and strengthened administratively.

One accomplishment has been the introduction of the annual marketing plan to guide cooperator operations. A pay scale for cooperators--a long-time FAS goal--was adopted, and automatic data processing was applied to cooperator expenditures to give a quicker, more complete picture of the program than was ever available before. Other important program changes have been the expansion of brand name promotion and the assignment of special assistant attaches for market development to key posts.

Prior to his work in export programs, Dave was director of the FAS Dairy and Poultry Division. He described himself in this position as "mostly...an enlisted man helping to fight the 'chicken war.'"

For about two years Dave also served as chairman of the Inter-Agency Staff Committee in the Food for Peace Program.

He will be accompanied to London, his first overseas post, by his wife, Selina.

As attache in London, in addition to the usual attache duties, he will have special responsibilities under the international wheat, sugar, and coffee agreements, all of which are operated from London headquarters.



Sue Hutton, receptionist in the London Trade Center office, samples chocolate covered Edam Cheese at a recent exhibit at the Trade Center. The Wisconsin candy which was introduced to the European market for the first time, was an exhibit favorite, according to Bill Scholz, director of the Trade Center.

Assistant attache Gordon Lloyd and his wife, Virginia, show off baby Lisa at her first outing to the home of Helen and Dick Roberts, attache in Ottawa. Brother David shares the limelight with his new sister.



Worthington Moves To State Department

It was FAS's loss and the State Department's gain when Howard Worthington, deputy assistant administrator for international trade, left in December to join State as Director of its Office of International Trade.

Howard was known to many European attaches through his work in trade negotiations. He virtually commuted between Washington and Geneva during 1965-67, serving as U.S. spokesman at Geneva in the early stages of the Kennedy Round, then as senior agricultural adviser to the U.S. delegation. After the Kennedy Round team finished its work, he represented the U.S. in International Grains Arrangement negotiations.

Howard entered federal service with the Tariff Commission in 1955 and has held positions with Commerce and State in addition to his work in FAS. He received the USDA Superior Service Award in 1966.

Trick Complimented

An article in a local Swiss newspaper complimented Attache Alan Trick shortly after his recent arrival at the Bern post on his mastery of the Swiss language. "He speaks not only fluent German but also understands about 65% of the Schweizerdeutsch, the Swiss German dialect....We find Mr. Trick's knowledge of our language especially good."



Aleksandar Cerne, local agricultural assistant, left, and Frank Ehman, agricultural attache, center, meet Marko Uzelac, director general of the Yugoslavian Federal Chamber of Economy, when the U.S. Wheat Trade Mission to Europe visited Yugoslavia in November. Clifford Pulvermacher, Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, USDA/W, led the team and Turner Oylo, formerly of the London attache office, represented FAS/W. Team members had a whirlwind two-day visit of appointments with Yugoslavian Government and trade officials.



The Guy Haviland family stop swimming long enough to pose together in the Embassy Pool. From left to right: Scott, Betty, June, Ruth Ann, and Guy. Guy is assistant attache in New Delhi.



Agricultural attaches pose at a recent monthly attache luncheon in Buenos Aires. Seated left to right: Joe Dodson, United States; Hugh McConnell, Australia; Herb Ryan, Canada. Standing left to right: Roger Steele, United Kingdom; Francis Von Rosmalem, Netherlands; Terry Hunt, Australia; Hjelmar Bendixen, Denmark; and Martin Schubkegel, United States.



The secretarial staff in Buenos Aires, Ethelwyn Brown, left, and Edna Pega, take a brief break from their duties in order to have their picture taken. Brownie is on her first tour abroad for FAS, while Edna has served 12 years in the Buenos Aires Office.

ROAMING AROUND

Robert McConnell, assistant attache in Lima, Peru, will be transferred to the Dominican Republic as attache in early March. Bob is expected in Washington the end of February for consultation prior to the Dominican Republic assignment. Mrs. McConnell is expecting their third child in January.

Donna Lee Hersey arrived in Caracas December 1 to begin her work as assistant attache in Venezuela.

Gordon Loveless, New Zealand attache, is expected in Washington January 29 for consultation.

Area Officer Dr. Afif Tannous recently returned from a five-week post inspection tour to the Near East. Afif visited posts in Rabat, Ankara, Beirut, and Tehran. While in Beirut he also participated as an official representative of FAS in a 3-week conference on "Science and Technology in Developing Countries" at the American University of Beirut, his alma mater. He gave a paper at the conference concerning "Organizing Science and Technology for Agricultural Development."

Steve Stephanides, attache in Iran, and his wife were suprised for the Holidays when their son and daughter who live in the Washington, D.C. area unexpectedly showed up in Iran for Christmas with the parents.

Paul Quintus, attache in Paris, recently filmed a television program for the "Down to Earth" series, a group of short features made by USDA for showing on television stations in agricultural areas of the United States. Paul's program for the series concerned agricultural trade with France. Paul will be on home leave until mid-February visiting his three children in the Washington area and his wife's family in Minnesota.

Harold Rabinowitz topped off his Foreign Service Institute schooling in Rio with a 3-3 in Portuguese. In a letter to Area Office Dale Farringer, Attache Jack McDonald in Rio said that Harold had been quite a favorite with the FSI staff. Jack said that Harold's FSI instructor commented that she had never seen an American student who improved so much in the 11 weeks he spent at the school.

(more)



The children of Mr. and Mrs. Byron Montgomery pose for a Christmas message sent to Washington friends. Youngsters are Elizabeth, 14 months; Melissa, 2; and Gordon, 5. Byron is the attache in Costa Rica and Panama.



Members of the attache staff, in Lagos, Nigeria, pose in front of the U.S. Chancery with a Jeep Wagoneer, long-awaited new official vehicle. From left to right: Odigie Oniha, agricultural assistant, (in Nigerian national costume); Alice F. Clark, secretary; John Arinze, driver; and Rado J. Kinzhuber, agricultural attache. Rado covers nine countries in tropical West Africa and will put the new wagon to good use traveling around Nigeria, Dahomey, Togo, Ghana, Niger, Rio Muni, Fernando Po, Sao Tome and Principe.

cont. from p. 6

Plans have been announced for a market development conference of European Area Attaches in Madrid March 6-12.

Lagos Attache Rado Kinzhuber and his family are together again in Lagos and work in the attache office is back in full swing. Rado, who brought his family on home leave in September, was detained here due to the controversial political situation in Nigeria. He returned to post in mid-November and was recently joined by his family.

Carl Winberg, attache in Rawalpindi, is on temporary duty as attache in Jakarta working on a new PL-480 program with Indonesia.

Thomas E. Morrow became Assistant to the Assistant Administrator for Management January 8, leaving his job as Director of the Budget and Finance Division to be filled by Jack Ryan. Jack comes from the Small Business Administration but formerly worked in the USDA and FAS Budget and Finance Divisions.

THE FAS LETTER



To U.S. Agricultural Attache Posts
United States Department of Agriculture
Foreign Agricultural Service
Washington, D.C. 20250

Editor: Carolyn Lewis, rm. 5916
So. Bldg. Ext. 4928

Gordon Nicks, who recently completed a 5-month language course in Japanese, arrived in Tokyo January 5 as assistant attache.

Sandra Scholl, daughter of former attache to Mexico John Scholl, was married December 23 in Treasure Island, California, to Lt. JG Dennis John Shaw. Sandra, who received her B.A. in 1966 and her M.A. degree in 1967 from the University of Kentucky, is a junior high school teacher at San Lorenzo, Calif. The groom is a 1966 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard academy where he was cadet commandant. They will make their home in Oakland, Calif.

Karl Shoemaker, who has worked in the Grain Division of FAS since his return from London, retired January 5. Kenneth Murray was transferred to London in mid-January as assistant attache to fill the post vacated by Karl. Karl will work as an economist for Land O'Lakes Creameries Inc. in Minneapolis, Minn.

Lawrence Davidoff is undergoing language training and orientation in preparation for his assignment as assistant attache to Bonn. Larry, formerly an economist in the Foreign Development and Trade Division of the Economic Research Service, will begin duties on his first overseas post around the end of March. He replaces Ken Murray.

Attache Harold Champeau in Warsaw recently accompanied American Ambassador Gronouski on an official visit to the ancient Polish city of Lublin.

Jerry Kuhl gives a last minute explanation of some of the attache duties to his successor, Jack McDonald, attache to Rio. Jack became attache after 16 weeks of intensive language training in Portuguese. Jerry, who returned to the states in late December, reported January 8 for Washington assignment after home leave in San Antonio, Texas.



Shackford Pitcher, agricultural officer, Sao Paulo, chats with Professor Hugo Leme at a reception given in honor of Finland's 50 years of independence. Host for the reception was the Finnish Consul General in Sao Paulo whose full time job is President of the Valmet Tractor Co. Dr. Leme, a professor at the University of Sao Paulo's agricultural college "Luiz de Queirox", was formerly the Minister of Agriculture for Brazil.

A. Paul Danyluk, assistant attache in Rome, (second from right) poses with California Congressman Mathias (second from left); Di Carlo, manager of one of Rome's MIMIMAX stores (left); and Ralph Brandon, store owner. Congressman Mathias presented raisin samples from the California Raisin Advisory Board at the Mimimax store in Rome during a recent visit there.

